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As of 16 June, work had been started on the roadbed of the Vlore-Memaliaj railroad. The railroad will pass through the village of Narte, where an auxiliary workshop was to be built. Local enterprises, such as the Vlore branch of the Perlat Rexhepi Construction Enterprise, were to help to build the railroad.(4)

The July plan was fulfilled 131.7 percent by the railroad workshop in Durres. The assembly unit completed the assembly of locomotives in good time and fulfilled its daily norm 120 percent. Soviet methods, such as the Levchenko-Mukhanov method, saved the state 44,365 leks and a large quantity of fuel oil and lubricants.(5)

Motor Transport

The Elbasan Motor Transport Enterprise (Ndermarje se transportit automobilitik) fulfilled the July plan 105.46 percent. The chief of one brigade made a record of 31,495 ton-kilometers, while the brigade exceeded the plan by 1,200 ton-kilometers. Most of the drivers in the enterprise belong to the 100,000-kilometer-without-overhaul movement.(6)

Three other brigades of the same enterprise made records of 1,000 ton-kilometers above the planned figure.(7)

A Stakhanovite in the Korce Motor Park drove his ZIS 126,532 kilometers without a general overhaul. His example was followed by 71 other drivers.(8)

As of 6 August, Sarande transport workers were making good records in distance driving without overhaul and in the number of ton-kilometers driven. Some Stakhanovites were working on the September-November plans in August.(9)

In Shkoder Motor Park, as of 14 August, 11 drivers were competing to fulfill the 1954 plan. One Stakhanovite began work on the 1954 plan about 10 August. Another, who drove 81,000 kilometers without a major overhaul in July, was working on the April 1954 quota. Over 70 drivers were taking part in the 100,000-kilometers-without-overhaul movement.(10)

Telephone Service

The city of Berat is to have an improved telephone service. The lines will be run underground in tubing. As of 11 June, about 50 percent of the work was done; the ditches were dug, tubes and cables were being laid, and a more suitable building with a better switchboard was planned by General Post Office officials.(11)

The laying of underground cable for the Berat municipal telephone service began in May. This system would eliminate difficulties in telephone conversation and reduce annual expenses for replacing poles. The authorities were spending about one million leks on this work. New automatic switchboards and three new booths were to be installed in the central office at Berat.(5)

As of 16 August, an automatic telephone switchboard was soon to be installed in Durres. New switchboards were being installed in other cities, and interurban lines were being standardized to give quicker service.(12)

ELECTRIC POWER AND ELECTRIFICATION

As of 16 July, work was in progress on the new Berat-Stalin Town electric power line. The poles were being furnished by the Nako Spiro Lumber Combine in Elbasan. The line will supply the city of Berat with more electric energy.(13)

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As of 15 June, an electric power substation was under construction in the environs of Elbasan. A high-tension network will provide this city and its industries with abundant electric power. Construction work was also in progress on roads and a lumber yard for the materials being collected, and materials and equipment for workers' quarters were arriving. (14)

On 22 June, the 9 Shtatori Brigade, composed of 68 young women, returned to Kukes after working on the Enver Hydroelectric Power Station on the Mat River. Brigade members received the title of Leading Workers for 3 consecutive months at the station. They were greeted in Kukes by Latif Shehu, first secretary of the party committee, and presented with a banner for their excellent work. (15)

As of 8 July, a local enterprise in Korce was beginning to produce small turbines, previously imported, for electric power plants. It will supply equipment for 20 small electric power stations in various parts of the country. In the first 6 months of 1953, the workers there produced two more turbines than the planned number. They promised six more turbines by 20 July.

The turbines produced are to be used at hydroelectric stations to be erected in Dherm, Vlore Park; in Baban, near the Devoll River; and in villages in Gjinokaster, Shkrapar, and Peshkopi rreths. (16)

As of 11 August, a hydroelectric power station had recently gone into operation in Zergan, Peshkopi Rreth, to provide illumination for the village. The Zergan peasants contributed 25,000 working hours and 62,000 leks. Another station was put into operation in Shupenze in May. Peasants in Fushe-Muhur were building a hydroelectric power station which they hoped to finish by 23 August. They had collected the materials for the building and 87,000 leks. The station will provide illumination for Fushe-Muhur and the small towns of Kalaj and Vojmeshenj. (17)

As of 30 July, peasants of Gjerbes, Tomorice lokalitet, Shkrapar Rreth, were helping to build one of the hydroelectric power plants included in the Five-Year Plan. The Gjerbes peasants did 85 percent of the work. The villages of Gradec, Trebel, and Posten had sent 260 men, women, girls, and boys to help on 18 - 20 July. The site for the machinery and the main building were finished and the poles were ready. The canal was already 8 kilometers long. (18)

As of 30 September, a large electric turbine was being installed in Stalin Town. It will produce three times the amount of electric energy available for the petroleum industry before the war. The foundations for the turbine and boiler were already laid. (19)

Tirana hydraulic engineers informed the inhabitants of Dherm Village, Vlore Rreth, that construction of a hydroelectric station there was to begin in March 1953. The turbine will be run by water diverted from the Falkoj River through a canal 400-450 meters long. Much lime and stone had to be provided for this 1,000-kilowatt station which will provide the peasants with power for illumination, and later for radios and moving pictures.

The peasants built two lime kilns and brought sand and other raw materials. By the end of July, 500 peasants had contributed 1,000 days of work. Men and women, young and old, and even schoolchildren joined in the effort to complete the plant in 1953. (20)

The Local Construction Enterprise of Vlore constructed the building for the hydroelectric plant at Dherm during the first half of 1953. As of 6 August, the turbine was soon to be installed. Peasants in Dherm had helped open a 300-meter canal. (9)

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As of 28 July, the Ylli i Kuq Farm in Fuzhe, Tirana Qark, and the 8 Nendori State Farm in Sukth, Durres Qark, had been provided with electric light in their quarters, barns, and other buildings. They also have electric milking machines supplied by the USSR. Such machines have also been installed in other agricultural enterprises. Ylli i Kuq has an electric incubator with a capacity of 20,000 eggs, as does the Irakli Terova State Farm. In 1953, several livestock breeding enterprises acquired electric sheep-shearing machines.(21)

On 15 June 1953, the workers of Bicaj Lokalitet, Kukës Rreth, were supplied with electric power from the new 9 Shtatori Electric Power Station. While, at first only certain sections of this lokalitet, and the town of Canaj (100 houses), were electrified, as soon as power lines could be erected other villages were to be supplied.(22)

MINING

Mechanization

The party and government investment in the development of Albanian mines has amounted to millions of leks. Coal mines are rapidly being mechanized. Electric compressors and portable motorized compressors are now available in several mines.

In the petroleum industry, modern drills from the USSR, electrically operated pumps, and tractors are replacing manpower and increasing production.(23)

Asphalt Mine

The Selenice Asphalt Mine is to be supplied with water and electricity. It will be fully mechanized by 1955.

As of 20 August, at Selenice there were 169 apartments for miners' families and four for single men in an area of 9,403 square meters, which was to be increased, according to the Five-Year Plan, another 1,000 meters. More housing was to be built in 1953. Selenice has a 7-year school for hundreds of miners' children, a labor reserve school for 180 technicians, a hospital, maternity home, day nursery, club building, motion-picture theater, and recreation park. There is also a night school attended by 600 miners.(24)

Coal Mines

One brigade of the Mborje-Drenove coal mines, Korce Qark, exceeded the July production quota 20 percent. The three shifts of the brigade competed to produce 2-3 more carloads of coal than the planned amount.(25)

As of 3 September, one brigade at the Krrabe coal mines was producing 3-4 more carloads every day than the planned amount. One miner in the brigade was producing 15 carloads instead of the six-carload norm. In the 29 Nendori gallery the miners were producing 16 carloads of coal above the daily quota.(19)

Shortcomings at Mines

The collective contract between the workers and management of the Memaliaj Coal Mine specifies the establishment of a qualification course for 60 miners, six Stakhanovite schools, and two advanced courses. But, as of 13 August, only 55 percent of the planned number had been able to attend the advanced courses. Only one Stakhanovite school had been opened, and no qualification courses were being given.

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The basic party organization made resolutions on the matter, but took no practical steps. The union committee was equally culpable. The contract specified that Soviet methods should be introduced but the directors excused their failure to do so by the scarcity of manpower, although the advantage of these methods is to increase the workers' efficiency.

The party and government urged the improvement of the workers' standard of living, but the mine management remained disinterested. For example, wages were not always paid regularly every 2 weeks. The directors rightly blamed the accountant for bureaucracy, but they were likewise responsible. They did not provide the food guaranteed under the contract and had not finished the new housing within the specified term.

Although the chief blame rested with the management and union organization, the primary party organization also failed in its duty to demand an accounting from those Communists who did not see that the basic party organization resolutions were carried out. (26)

Workers' delegates and the directors of production, geology, construction, and supplies at the Pitore Caradum Mine at Bulqize met on 17 July to discuss the collective contract made in the previous 6 months. The workers protested against the absence of three directors, Vaso Shqvi, production director, Hamit Koci, director of supplies, and Sait Ishmi, director of the geological department.

The report on collective contracts was presented for Shqvi by Pal Marka Dede, head of the union committee. The report noted many defects in the collective contract system but made no suggestions for determining or eliminating their causes. The workers themselves made several valuable suggestions, including increased use of criticism and self-criticism and elimination of excuses for failure, such as those alleged by Shqvi.

One worker complained that Shqvi did not promote competition through banners, leaflets praising outstanding workers, and tablets of honor. Another complained that workers' suggestions were considered only after long delays which discouraged the workers.

Several workers complained that little was done to improve their material and cultural conditions. Of the 70,000 leks allotted for improving working conditions, only 40,000 leks were spent, although many changes were needed. The housing plan lagged because the directors did not finish one house before starting another. Among other defects noted was the lack of bathing and disinfecting facilities. Class A workers and Class B workers were obliged to eat in the same messroom. Both classes complained of the scarcity of fruit and vegetables.

The directors were accused of aloofness and bureaucracy, lack of coordinations, and nonacceptance of criticism, from their inferiors. Tosum Mazlumi, secretary of the party organization, was accused of shifting blame due him to other shoulders, but never criticizing the three above-mentioned directors because of partiality, which is inexcusable in a Communist.

Under such conditions, successful fulfillment of the 1953 plan could not be expected. (18)

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PETROLEUM

Cerrik Oil Refinery

As of 8 August, the distillery unit of the Cerrik Oil Refinery was ready for the installation of machinery. Masons and plasterers were at work on other sections. The pumping station, central laboratory, main repair shop and transformer installation were finished in August. One of the bitumen plant chimneys, 40 meters high, was also finished. The six-man chimney brigade, all Stakhanovites, had gained experience building the chimneys of the 8 Nentori Sugar Factory and the Stalin Textile Combine.(27) The second chimney of the bitumen plant was built 8 days ahead of schedule, toward the end of September.(28)

Several brigades at the refinery fulfilled the July plan 145 percent and the second quarterly plan 126 percent.

A new method of using portable molds for the concrete work on the reservoirs saved lumber at the refinery. As of 8 August, Soviet engineers were directing the assembly of material for the reservoirs and the installation of the machinery and big boilers for crude oil processing in the bitumen factory. A Soviet engineer trained an apprentice to operate a 560-kilowatt Skoda engine.(27)

Stalin Town-Cerrik Pipe Line

On 24 July the brigade constructing the Stalin Town-Cerrik pipe line began insulating and laying pipe at point 35. The first day the workers insulated 189 meters of pipe. The daily norm is 120 meters. The Five-Year Plan did not anticipate reaching this stage until 1954. The workers expected to insulate and lay pipe from point 35 to point zero, a distance of 3,500 meters, 18 days ahead of schedule.(28) By the end of August, up to 6 kilometers of pipe were insulated and laid from Cerrik toward Stalin Town and the same amount had been laid starting from Stalin Town. Soviet tractors of the Stalinets type were being used to transport the pipe.(29)

Stalin Petroleum Combine

Sector IV of the Stalin Petroleum Combine constantly fulfills its quota 101-105 percent. In 3 days in June it produced 9 tons of crude oil more than the planned amount. Well No 165, which was not working for 2 months, was put in operation in June and produces hundreds of liters of crude oil per day.(30) The drillers working on this well had drilled 93 meters in 6 hours and finished the work 19 days ahead of schedule. For their success they were awarded 25,000 leks.(7) As of 13 June, well No 11 and well No 101, which had not been working for 2 months, were producing hundreds of liters of crude oil per day. Two more wells were soon to be put in order again.(14) As of 19 August, a brigade was opening well No 97, the first well scheduled in the plan for 1955.(7)

By voluntary work, the workers had collected as of 24 June, 8 tons of scrap iron and 800 meters of pipe to be used on well No 54 instead of new imported material.(30)

Up to 25 August, the drilling and exploiting units had fulfilled the August plan 91 percent, and the prospecting unit 35.9 percent.(31) A number of units exceeded their daily quotas, including brigade No 2 which exceeded its daily August quota 4 percent. Distillery unit No 1 exceeded its quota, while the bitumen unit produced tons of bitumen more than the planned amount. But August 24 this unit fulfilled 96.4 percent of the August quota.(32)

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The machine shop of the Stalin Petroleum Combine was carrying out [source dated 9 June] its collective contracts and creating excellent working conditions for its staff. Each machine was well lighted and provided with the necessary materials and safety guards. The workers were being supplied, according to law, with supplementary food. In June the management distributed 180 suits of work clothes to them. To raise their cultural level, the directors installed a reading room with newspapers, books and periodicals. Thousands of leks were spent on physical culture and sports, such as volleyball, basketball, and football. New housing was provided for many families. The workers were doing their part by competing to fulfill the plan. Solderers, technicians, fitters, foundry men, and workers in the oxygen and barrel-making units exceeded the May plan 9 percent. The solderers exceeded the plan 19 percent, while the barrel-making unit produced 3,131 barrels more than planned. (33)

However, complaints were made [source dated 23 September] that the Workers' Supply Enterprise in Stalin Town was not furnishing workers regularly with consumer goods, especially fruit, vegetables, and milk. Workers often criticized the enterprise for poor organization and the directors and executive committee for lack of interest in this matter. The excuse given was the scarcity of such goods in the town markets, although 1953 production was ample. The nearby Partizani Agricultural Collective was furnishing the town with plenty of agricultural and animal produce. According to the Partizani, the enterprise was not keeping its contracts and often sent back such produce as tomatoes, paprika, eggplant, potatoes, grapes, and watermelons. The enterprise claimed that there were no buyers, although the Partizani continually sold to other workers in the town.

The quality of the fruit and vegetables in the municipal market is not always good. Consequently, Stalin Combine workers prefer foodstuffs bought in the suburbs to produce furnished by the supply enterprise. Moreover, the bakeries, restaurants, and clubs are criticized for lack of cleanliness, scarcity and poor quality of goods, and poor service. For example, although there were plenty of clients in the restaurants, there were no waiters after 8 September. Furthermore, although the health authorities on 11 September ordered that no beer be sold because it was spoiled, the directors of the supply enterprise ordered it sold to prevent showing a deficit.

Those responsible for such violations of government policy, the directors of the supply enterprise, the directors of the Stalin Petroleum Combine, and the executive committee of the Stalin Town People's Council, should have acted immediately to correct this situation. (34)

By 11 June, Sector III of the Pajos Petroleum Production Enterprise of the Stalin Petroleum Combine had exceeded the plan [unspecified] 6 percent. For 2 months this sector produced many tons of crude oil over the planned amount. As of 20 June, the Levchenko-Mukhanov method had saved the state 143,086 leks in 1953. (36)

Barrel Production

On 10 June, the Stalin City Machine Shop received 7 tons of scrap steel. To increase the production of barrels, the workers built a machine for cutting sheet metal and a calendering machine out of this material. Mechanization increased barrel production 40 percent with ten fewer workers and improved the quality of the product. The 1953 output was 100-150 barrels per day greater than in 1952.

As of 23 June, the shop had recently done well in putting discarded lathes into operation. The workers also repaired a lathe to machine cylinder jackets and a large milling and cutting machine for gears of various sizes. (11)

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During August and the first days of September, the barrel-making unit of the machine shop produced 1,300 more barrels than the planned number and expected to produce 3,000 by the end of September.(35)

The Stalin Metalworking Plant satisfactorily fulfilled its plan for the first 8 months of 1953. The solderers' and smiths' brigade exceeded the production plan for bitumen containers 25 percent, producing 611 containers above the planned number.(3)

CONSTRUCTIONGjinokaster Qark

Funds for construction in Gjinokaster Qark for economic and educational purposes were 27 percent greater in 1953 than in 1952.

Among the finished projects are a 4-million-lek motion-picture theater in the city of Gjinokaster, a maternity home in Cepune, Kardhiq Lokalitet, and 7-year schools in the villages of Golem and Peshkop. As of 21 August, four other schools were being enlarged (37) Peasants in Radat, Goranxh, and Gline were to finish a new 7-year school, to open on 15 September.(38) Three new reading rooms, another maternity home, and more schools are planned in the qark.

Reclamation work was in progress, as of 21 August, on a considerable amount of land near the Arshi Lengo Farm and the Nepraviste Agricultural Collective. A hydroelectric power plant was to be erected in Selo-Klishar.(37) As of 5 September, the peasants of Peshkop and Gline were building a small hydroelectric plant to provide illumination for three villages.(38)

Korce Qark

The local building enterprise in Korce exceeded the plan for the first 6 months of 1953 about 0.6 percent with 88 percent of the specialists and 66 percent of the masons provided in the plan. The chief projects of the enterprise were the construction of the Devoll River Canal, artisan cooperative workshops, workers' housing in the city of Korce, and the completion of rest homes in Voskopojë. As of 24 July, work was in progress on a new channel for the river passing through the city. Employment of six Soviet methods saved the state 159,403 leks up to 20 July and reduced costs about 11.1 percent.(39)

Kukes Qark

The local building enterprise in Kukes fulfilled the plan for the first 6 months of 1953 only 74.91 percent because of poor organization and lack of a sense of responsibility on the part of the directors. Moreover, Kutim Sabedimi, the technician of the enterprise, made errors in carrying out the plans for the Orgjeshte Canal in Shishtevec which cost some ten thousand leks. The agricultural section of the qark executive committee was also responsible for delaying work on this canal and other projects. Work on the canal at Brut was likewise delayed 3 months by the poor planning of the directors of the enterprise and lack of interest on the part of the local authorities.(39)

Lushnje Rreth, Berat Qark

Lushnje Rreth was to have a new school, new housing, and a new motion-picture theater in 1953. But, as of 5 September the work was lagging. From January to April, 30.7 percent of the building plan was fulfilled, in May 35.65 percent, and in June 39.58 percent. Lack of weekly and daily planning prevented well-organized work, while transport means were not fully utilized.

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Responsibility for this lag rested with the rreth executive committee. Although aware of these delays, the committee exercised no control over the situation. In fact, the members adopted a very superficial attitude toward building projects. They should have realized that discipline was being broken and the Five-Year Plan obstructed.(38)

Permet Rreth

The 1953 plan of the local building enterprise of Permet included the building of four elementary schools, two 7-year schools, and two houses. By the end of June the 6-months' plan was fulfilled 110 percent, and the July plan 118 percent.(25)

Peshkopi Rreth

The Peshkopi Executive Committee and the Reserve Labor Section organized so well that the July manpower plan was overfulfilled 53 percent. Workers were sent to building enterprises and other projects, including the Bulqize Chromium Mines and the Enver Hydroelectric Power Station.

Zall i Dardhes Lokalitet fulfilled the third quarterly plan of 1953 for manpower supply 100 percent. Trojak Lokalitet exceeded the July plan and fulfilled the quarterly plan 48 percent. The rreth's quarterly plan was 34.42 percent fulfilled.(6)

The local construction plan was not satisfactorily fulfilled in Peshkopi Rreth. The plan for the first 8 months of 1953 was only 71 percent fulfilled because the rreth executive committee and local authorities did not appreciate the importance of the tasks for which they were responsible. The executive committee passed resolutions which remained mere paper work without practical results.

The committee's conduct influenced the construction section directors who stayed in their offices and knew little about the sections they were directing. The excuse offered for the lag in construction was the scarcity of manpower, especially of qualified workers. But the lag was particularly noticeable in the construction of irrigation canals and bridges despite the fact that, since the peasants contributed their work, there were too many rather than too few workers. In the first 6 months of 1953, they contributed volunteer work amounting in value to 5,500,000 leks.

This lag in irrigation canal construction was also the result of nonintervention by the people's councils, mass organizations, and the democratic front. On the other hand, when they did intervene, they often caused trouble. For example, in May 1953, the executive committee took 50-60 workers away from the construction enterprise for 20 days for employment on various projects for beautifying the city which were not included in the plan.

Mexhit Islami, head of the local construction enterprise, has made no attempt to correct existing irregularities. Moreover, the union committee has not cooperated in solving problems and in introducing modern methods to increase production. The fulfillment of the Five-Year Plan demands a more healthy organization of the local construction enterprise in Peshkopi Rreth.(40)

Rrshen Rreth

The Mirdite Executive Committee, Rrshen Rreth, appointed a committee, headed by Pal Gjoka, to determine and analyze the causes of the poor performance of the local construction enterprise in fulfilling only 18.67 percent of the first quarterly plan of 1953. Gjoka's report was unsatisfactory. He attributed

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the failure to fulfill the plan to bad weather and scarcity of materials. But, as he held no meetings with the workers to discuss their shortcomings, he could not give the executive committee any concrete data on which to judge and remedy the situation.

The 1953 construction plan included a primary school, a 7-year school, housing, and a motion-picture theater. To fulfill this plan, the executive committee should have taken immediate steps to correct the shortcomings of the directors and workers of this enterprise.(41)

Stalin Town and Patos

The party and government provide the Stalin Petroleum Combine workers at Stalin Town with housing for families and single men, a school, and several cultural institutions. New buildings which were to be finished in 1953 include a hotel, a public nursery, and a labor reserve school. As of 15 July, housing for 40 families was nearly finished, and five more buildings were in progress.

Seven apartments and a bakery were finished at the Patos oil fields.(42)

Tirana

The Muhamet Gjolllesha Construction Enterprise fulfilled the construction plan of the first 6 months of 1953 only 68 percent, while output reached 90.28 percent. The management is "dried up" with formalism. For example, the directors are content to give orders on the use of Soviet methods without seeing to their execution. In cases where they were introduced, their use was irregular. For example, the Kulakov method was employed only 2 or 3 hours a day in building walls, thereby reducing efficiency.

The directors try to explain their low output by scarcity of building materials. But this does not explain why only 36.5 percent of the workers use the Levchenko-Mukhanov method. The true reason is that the directors are against new methods and indifferent to waste. For example, Construction Unit No 1 does not protect its materials; bricks are dumped anywhere and broken, and wooden scrap is not picked off the ground.(5)

As of 12 August, the enterprise was engaged on important projects, such as two workers' "Palaces" with five to seven stories and 76 apartments, occupying an area of 2,723 square meters.(43) Unless the directors overcome their sluggishness in adopting essential new methods, they cannot complete their projects as specified in the Five-Year Plan.(5)

Tirana Woolen Goods Factory

Workers on the woolen goods factory of the Stalin Textile Combine were building roads around the factory and speeding up transport of materials in early June 1953. Inside the main production hall, workers assembled machines and installed electrical and hydraulic equipment, wiring, and lightning installations.

The machines on hand will produce thousands of meters of cloth per year.(33)

On 3 July, assemblers finished installing the wool washing and dyeing machinery. Fifty percent of the machinery in the wool washing and dyeing unit is now installed, as is 70-90 percent in other units.(44) By 7 August, the workers finished the rooms for spinning, combing, and blending.(45) By 14 August, 75 percent of the machinery was in place. Installations were completed in the dried wool storeroom, and in the sorting, scouring, and carbonizing units. The wool spinning and dyeing units were nearly ready. The teasing, heating, combing, and drying machines, were in operation, and some looms were being used to train apprentices. The mechanics promised to finish the assembly of machinery by 11 October.(10) All construction work was to be completed by 16 October.(45)

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As of 30 July, a raki distillery was under construction in the village of Shengjergj, Shengjergj Lokalitet. The rreth consumers cooperative was investing 200,000 leks in this project. Peasants from Perpunje, Fag, and Derje were aiding in collecting sand, stone, and wood.

The village of Shemeri, Shengjergj Lokalitet, was building a small hydro-electric power plant to supply several villages with electricity. The peasants of Shemeri, Snengjin, and Facesh volunteered to do the excavating, thus saving thousands of leks. Stone and lumber were collected by 23 July. The peasants prepared 40,000 kilograms of lime and conveyed it to the working site. The canal was nearly finished (18)

As of 7 August, a new school was under construction in Yrshek, and the school in Farke was being enlarged. A large school in Savk, second only to that at the Ylli i Kuq State Farm, was expected to be finished in August. The peasants were supplying lumber, manpower, and about 10,000 leks for this school.(6)

Vlore Qark

Construction of the Tannin Extraction Factory at Vlore began on 14 June 1952. By the end of October 1952, the foundations were laid for the main production building, warehouse, pumping station, and water reservoirs.

When it was realized that a scarcity of iron existed, the directors of the construction unit took steps to collect metal scrap from steamships damaged during the war and from German and Italian tanks left in Llogare. In trying to achieve a maximum of economy in the utilization of iron for reinforced concrete, they succeeded in using only 0.5 percent of the amount allowed by law. As a result of this economy, the needs of the factory were met.

The factory will be divided into four units: the unit for acorn crushing, the evaporation unit, the unit for chemical processing, and the carbonizing unit.(46)

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALSBricks, Cement

As of 17 September, Stakhanovites in the Hoffman kiln unit of the State Brickyard at Korce were making 10,500-12,000 bricks per day. The norm was 7,500 bricks per day.(8)

In September, consumers cooperatives in Fier Rreth furnished peasants more than 20,000 kilograms of cement, 100 cubic meters of boards, thousands of meters of cloth, and many agricultural tools.(47)

As of 22 August, the village consumer shops in Elbasan were stocked with 145 different articles, including cement, boards, nails, rope, earthenware, and glass. New shops had been opened in Farret, Lunik, Polis, and Shales, making 60 shops in the rreth.(48)

The State Cement Enterprise in Shkoder has consistently exceeded the planned amount of cement production in each of the 5 years of its existence. As of 12 June, the cement mill had recently been enlarged and jacketed in sheet iron, raising its capacity from 46 to 55 carloads of stone and clay.(49)

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Construction of a cement factory in Vlore began in July 1952. As of 16 July, the first 6-month plan for 1953 was 110 percent fulfilled. In the crusher unit, the conveyers and hoists which carry the broken stone to the processing unit had been installed. A large clay bin, the mixer and pumps to convey the slurry from the mill to the kiln were ready. Work was finished on the coal and kiln unit. The coal mill was 90 percent finished. Mounting the mill to take fine coal dust was a delicate job. The coal dust is injected into the kiln where it produces a temperature of 5,330 degrees. The foundations for the kiln chimney were laid and construction had been started. The steam-electric plant was also under way. The annex, turbine room, and boiler room were finished. The 45-meter boiler room chimney had been started. Most of the work on a large concrete water reservoir and aqueduct had been finished, and the fire department, administration building, and eight houses for workers and white-collar workers were completed.(50)

Lumber

At the sawmills in Hotolishte, Elbasan Qark, the plan for the first 6 months of 1953 was fulfilled 100.09 percent, and the June plan 121.2 percent. The workers competed to produce the most lumber. The winner was sector No 4, which exceeded the quarterly plan 69.62 percent.(42)

The Wood Impregnating Factory of the Nako Spiro Timber Combine in Elbasan fulfilled the August plan 105.22 percent. Production of poles for high-tension lines was especially good. The lathe operators took first place in production.(38)

Sawmill workers in Ballabanove, Korce Qark, had fulfilled the 1953 lumber plan 102 percent by 15 July and were working in the 1954 plan.(42)

IMPORTS

In early June, the Soviet Steamship Lermontov arrived at an Albanian port with various goods, including wheat, corn, steel, rubber tires, natural rubber, material for the rubber industry, machinery for the petroleum industry, drugs, medical instruments, and parts for automobiles and machines.(51)

Later imports from the USSR included tractors and spare parts, machinery for the petroleum industry, steel, lathes, narrow-gauge tracks, and medicinal herbs. Czechoslovakia delivered petroleum industry equipment, electrical items, and vehicle tires. Hungary delivered electric pumps, telephone apparatus, and silk textiles.(42)

The wool scouring and drying machinery for the Woolen Goods Factory of the Stalin Textile Combine formed part of a 300-ton shipment from the USSR to the factory.(10)

In 1953, Albania signed trade and payment agreements with the USSR for 1953, with Hungary for 1953 - 1955, and with East Germany and Poland for 1954 - 1955, and made one-year agreements with Rumania, Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Albania's imports are mainly transportation equipment, mining machinery, and other technical equipment. In 1952 - 1953, consumer goods, cloth, and foodstuffs comprised 25 percent of the imports.

Imports from the USSR in the first 6 months of 1953 amounted to 39.6 percent of Albania's total, and consisted chiefly of industrial equipment. Czechoslovakia delivered transport equipment; Poland, mining equipment, locomotives, and railroad cars; Hungary, pipes, cables, and wire; Bulgaria, cereals; and Rumania, petroleum products.

Albanian exports to the above-mentioned countries included petroleum, chromium, copper, wool, hides, olive oil, and other agricultural products.(52)

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